

REMARKS

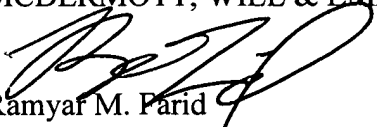
The indication of allowable subject matter in claims 6, 8, 11, 12, 13, 20, 22, 25, 26, 27, 14, 15, 28 and 29 is acknowledged and appreciated. In order to expedite allowance of the instant application, claims 1-29 have been canceled and replaced with the new claims 30-58 having independent claims 30, 31, 37-39, 43, 44, 49-51 and 55-58 which define, respectively, the aforementioned allowed claims rewritten into independent form. Accordingly, it is submitted that all claims are now in condition for allowance. The rejected claims have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer and Applicants reserve the right to pursue them in a continuation application.

Having fully responded to all matters raised in the Office Action, Applicants submit that all claims are in condition for allowance, an indication for which is respectfully solicited. If there are any outstanding issues that might be resolved by an interview or an Examiner's amendment, the Examiner is requested to call Applicants' attorney at the telephone number shown below.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

MCDERMOTT, WILL & EMERY



Ramyar M. Farid
Registration No. 46,692

600 13th Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20005-3096
(202) 756-8000 RMF:mcm
Facsimile: (202) 756-8087
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